UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.2/1995/2/Add.2
2 December 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
20-31 March 1995
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

QUADRENNIAL REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, CATEGORIES I AND II

Quadrennial reports, 1990-1993

Reports submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 3 May 1968

* E/C.2/1995/1.

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Note

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) on arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations, organizations in consultative status in categories I and II shall submit to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, through the Secretary-General, every fourth year a brief report of their activities, specifically as regards the support they have given to the work of the United Nations. Based on findings of the Committee's examination of the report and other relevant information, the Committee may recommend to the Council any reclassification in status of the organization concerned as it deems appropriate.

At its 1981 session, the Committee decided that quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations should be limited to no more than two single-spaced pages. At its 1989 session, the Committee stressed the need for non-governmental organizations required to submit quadrennial reports to provide the Secretariat with clear and timely information, including, inter alia, a brief introductory statement recalling the aims and purposes of the organization.

At its 1991 session, the Committee emphasized the need for non-governmental organizations requested to submit quadrennial reports to provide a clear picture of their activities as they related to the United Nations. The Committee further noted that the reports should conform to the guidelines elaborated by the Non-Governmental Organizations Section pursuant to the relevant decisions of the Committee (see E/1991/20, para. 47). The Committee decided that only those reports elaborated in conformity with the guidelines and submitted to the Non-Governmental Organizations Section no later than 1 June of the year preceding the Committee's session would be transmitted to the Committee for consideration. The Committee recalled that organizations failing to submit adequate reports on time would be subject to reclassification in status that the Committee might deem appropriate, in conformity with paragraph 40 (b) of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) (see E/1991/20, para. 48). Pursuant to these decisions, the Secretariat, in December 1993, communicated to all relevant organizations guidelines for the completion of quadrennial reports.

The material issued in the present series of documents (E/C.2/1995/2 and addenda) has been reproduced as submitted and therefore reflects the policies and terminology of the organizations concerned. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations Secretariat concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Supplementary material, such as annual reports and samples of publications, is available in the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat.

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1. ALL PAKISTAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

(Category II)

The All Pakistan Women's Association is a national organization of the women of Pakistan, with 4 provincial and 26 district branches throughout Pakistan. APWA has recently expanded its base to become an international organization as well, with branches in New York, London, Birmingham, Manchester, Bradford and Beijing, thus substantially increasing its membership.

The objectives of APWA are to create an informed and intelligent participation of women in total development, and the recognition and restoration of their legal and constitutional rights: equality, development and peace, with an emphasis on education, health, training in income-generating skills and family planning.

To assist in implementing its programme, APWA has formed a coordinating council of 42 women's voluntary organizations. In addition, APWA has five affiliates as well as two associated groups that raise funds for APWA projects.

Implementation of United Nations resolutions

APWA representatives at the United Nations are responsible for reporting to the United Nations on the implementation of United Nations conventions, resolutions and other decisions, that calls for a response from non-governmental organizations, as well as for disseminating knowledge within Pakistan on the objectives and activities of the United Nations system.

APWA representatives at United Nations Headquarters are taking every necessary step to represent APWA activities at the United Nations.

Participation in Economic and Social Council, its subsidiary bodies, conferences and meeting of other United Nations bodies

APWA participated as follows:

(a) APWA was nominated to the Board of the Committee on UNICEF in New York. Although APWA was not elected, it did manage to get 32 votes;

(b) The World Summit for children;

(c) Working consultation entitled "Education for all" held by the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF (New York, 30-31 January 1991), at which APWA representatives made several interventions;

(d) APWA attended the API/NGO conferences on "Peace, justice and development: ingredients for an emerging world order" and on "The United Nations and peace-keeping: improving the image of the United Nations in the eyes of the public";

(e) APWA attended the ACWW Central Asia Conference (Sri Lanka, 23-27 November 1993);

(f) APWA has set up a preparatory body for the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(g) APWA participated in a dialogue on the theme "National youth policy and family planning" with a UNDP consultant on youth affairs (4 July 1992);

(h) APWA participated in a seminar on the theme "Environment and Law in Pakistan" organized by IUCN (11 January 1992);

(i) APWA participated in an ACWW South and Central Asia area conference held in Sri Lanka in 1993 on the theme "Women and the world";

(j) APWA participated in a meeting for the Asia-Pacific region on the theme "women and environment: partners in life" (Bangkok, 11-15 March 1991).

Funding problems

Since the stoppage of funds from USAID and other donors, APWA work has been disrupted: the United Nations must assist the non-governmental organizations.

APWA responded to United Nations questionnaires in the following areas:

(a) Education for development;

(b) Accomplishing the UNICEF goal of universal children's immunization;

(c) Education of the girl child;

(d) Observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. A statement on APWA activities was submitted in July 1991;

(e) Opinion survey on post-Nairobi strategies to be used as a guideline for United Nations activities in the area of the status of women;

(f) Questionnaire from a United Nations peace studies unit to be used for United Nations peace messengers organization. APWA replied in 1990;

(g) ESCAP/WINAP survey on Asia and the Pacific calendar of events 1989 to 1991;

(h) International survey of children and youth participation in society. APWA submitted a report on the activities of its Youth Section.

APWA held meetings, seminars and conferences on the following:

(a) Human Rights Day 1990, observed jointly by APWA and the Department of Public Information. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pakistan was the chief guest;

(b) Inalienable rights of the people of Palestine (1990). APWA supported the issue on the grounds of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) Peace and drug abuse prevention education (1-3 June 1991). A senior federal minister was the chief guest;

(d) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (20 November 1992);

(e) Cease-fire for peace in the Middle East (January 1991). A resolution was passed by APWA;

(f) Right of self-determination of the people of Kashmir (13 February 1991);

(g) United Nations Day 1993 and Human Rights Day 1993. Press releases were issued highlighting their importance and to create an awareness for elimination of discrimination against women;

(h) Human Rights Day 1993. The Chief Justice of the High Court of Sindh was the chief guest;

(i) Law and social practices detrimental to women (Karachi, 20 April 1993). The Chairman of the Senate was the chief guest;

(j) Impact of environmental pollution on human life, with particular reference to Pakistan;

(k) Panel discussion on the girl child (25 March 1993);

(l) Fourth World Conference on women, symposium organized by UNIFEM (Islamabad, 28 November 1993);

(m) Environment and law in Pakistan (11 January 1992);

(n) Strategic management for the 1990s (Washington, D.C., 20 July-21 August 1992).

At its Triennial Conference (Islamabad, February 1992), APWA adopted a resolution on the following:

(a) The impact of environmental pollution on humanity;

(b) Human rights and crimes against women;

(c) The restoration of reserved seats in the national and provincial assemblies;

(d) The establishment of special funds for deprived women;

(e) Population planning. Due to unprecedented population growth in Pakistan, formal and sustained efforts must be made by the Government, the

non-governmental organizations community and the United Nations system to control that growth;

(f) The need for the United Nations to take firm action on the implementation of Security Council resolution S/RES/47 on the right of self-determination of Kashmir.

Papers written and published

APWA had a hand in the following publications:

(a) Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, published by DAWN;

(b) Drug Abuse Prevention Education, published by the International Islamic University, Islamabad;

(c) "Peace and international security: conflict resolution and disarmament", paper presented at a United Nations conference held in Sochi, former USSR (10-14 June 1991);

(d) "Impact of environment pollution on human life", keynote speech of a seminar on that subject held in Karachi.

2. ARAB ORGANIZATION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

(Category II)

The Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) was founded in 1983 as a non-governmental organization which, as defined in its statute, works for the defence, protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Arab region based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights treaties and conventions.

The AOHR scope of activities extends to individual and collective civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights; it also aims to raise public awareness of legal and civil rights.

AOHR is based in Cairo, maintains an office in Geneva for its permanent representation at the United Nations, and has branches or affiliated members in Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, the Sudan and Lebanon. Branches have been recently established in Kuwait, Yemen and Jordan, as well as in Austria, France, Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Canada. AOHR individual membership totals 1,800, which extends to over 19 Arab countries, Europe and North America.

The AOHR budget is based on membership, subscriptions, donations and interests from its deposits. In order to maintain its independence, it does not accept donations from either political movements or governmental organizations.

AOHR obtained consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (category II) in 1989, at the 494th meeting of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. In 1990, AOHR attained observer status with the Commission for Human and People's Rights of the Organization of African Unity, as the mechanism for the implementation of the African Charter.

Between 1990 and 1993, AOHR was represented at a high level at a large number of meetings organized or sponsored by the United Nations (a list has been made available to the Secretariat). AOHR has taken an active part in such meetings, as well as other informal gatherings, for many years.

For example, AOHR has worked closely throughout 1990-1993 with both the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. Through its representatives, AOHR has presented both oral and written statements under various agenda items at those meetings.

In addition, AOHR has been represented at the meetings of various working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and has collaborated with the Human Rights Committee and other treaty monitoring bodies. For example, AOHR submitted a paper entitled "The right to health" to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its eighth session. The paper presented an overview of signatory countries' obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as well as under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Throughout 1992, the work of AOHR was increasingly oriented towards the preparation for the World Conference on Human Rights. AOHR proved an active participant in the preparatory process for the event, producing a series of recommendations during the African Regional Meeting held in Tunis in November 1992 and coordinating its efforts with 79 African and international non-governmental organizations to present a united position at the Non-Governmental Organizations Forum preceding the World Conference.

AOHR also established an Arab Coordinating Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations for the World Conference on Human Rights, which held its meeting parallel to the African meetings. It also exchanged recommendations with the Arab Governments as well as with the Commission on Human and People's Rights of the Arab League. That process was conducted in close cooperation with the Centre for Human Rights of the United Nations Secretariat, which in tur provided AOHR with advice and guidance. Those shared efforts culminated in the Arab Conference on Human Rights, held in Cairo in April 1992, which was coordinated by AOHR and managed to bring together 60 Arab human rights organizations, trade unions and syndicates with the aim of crystallizing an Arab perspective to present to the World Conference.

That concerted action resulted in the submission of recommendations to the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference at its third session in Geneva (see A/CONF.157/PC/42/Add.5), and the production of a 264-page book entitled The World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 1993, which summarized the Arab preparatory process. It also paved the way for a more concrete Arab non-governmental presence at the World Conference itself.

AOHR participation at the World Conference consisted of the organization of exhibitions, films and forums, and a strong presence at the Non-Governmental Organizations Forum that preceded it. AOHR also made a statement at the World Conference. Member organizations of AOHR had an active agenda at the World Conference.

In December 1993, following the conclusion of the World Conference, the Third General Assembly of AOHR was held in Cairo. The Coordinator of the World Conference on Human Rights, on behalf of the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights of the United Nations Secretariat, made a statement that focused on the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the Conference as the basis for the future direction of both the Centre for Human Rights and the human rights movement. The Coordinator of the World Conference also paid tribute to the active role of AOHR in the human rights field, in particular in the preparatory process of the World Conference and at the Conference itself.

AOHR has also nurtured a strong cooperative relationship with the various bodies and organizations of the United Nations system.

In the wake of the Gulf War, AOHR cooperated with UNHCR and shared its experience and information on the prisoners of war and disappeared persons in Iraq and Kuwait. In addition, AOHR dispatched a fact-finding mission in 1991 to Iraq and Kuwait in order to closely observe the repercussions of the war and the deteriorating humanitarian situation resulting from the economic sanctions imposed on Ira . In that connection, AOHR exchanged its information and

expertise with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Labour Organization. Together with UNHCR, AOHR has also been addressing the question of the refugee camps in Saudi Arabia.

In cooperation with the Arab Federation of Labour and the Arab Lawyers Union, AOHR is in the process of establishing an Arab Centre for Trade Union Rights with the aim of raising public awareness in that area. Mention should also be made of the Arab Institute for Human Rights (AIHR), which was established by AOHR, the Arab Lawyers Union, the Centre for Human Rights, UNESCO and the Tunisian League for Human Rights: AIHR was awarded the 1992 UNESCO prize for the teaching of human rights. AOHR has also taken part in organizing symposia and regular human rights courses for the training of human rights activists and experts.

In the cultural field, AOHR organized jointly with UNESCO an exhibition on human rights, which was held in Egypt, Tunisia and Lebanon, as well as in Paris and Vienna. UNESCO also made it possible for AOHR to issue a publication on human rights in 1990.

Through its publications and seminars, AOHR has raised awareness of issues that are of concern both locally and internationally. Its programme of action closely follows the suggested recommendations of competent United Nations bodies. In that respect, AOHR has:

(a) Devoted several issues of its periodical Symposia on Human Rights to pressing human rights questions, including:

(i) The international order and human rights in the Arab world (1990);

(ii) The horizons of democracy in the Arab world in the context of democratic legitimacy (1991);

(iii) The international humanitarian order and human rights in the Arab world (1992);

(iv) Democracy in the Arab world: perspectives and guarantees (1993);

(b) Produced a monthly newsletter, The Arab Organization for Human Rights. Throughout its 72 issues, the newsletter reviewed human rights issues and violations in Arab countries; the activities of AOHR and other local and international human rights groups; and significant events in the field of human rights, particularly United Nations meetings that AOHR had attended;

(c) Produced the "Annual report on the situation of human rights in the Arab world", which includes an analysis of the human rights situation in countries relative to international standards.

Another important segment of AOHR activities is the dissemination of United Nations information on human rights and other interdisciplinary issues.

Finally, at the Third General Assembly of AOHR in December 1993, as a result of close cooperation with the United Nations system, it was decided that

the next 10-year plan of AOHR would be based on the decisions and resolutions of the World Conference on Human Rights, in particular the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

3. ARAB WOMEN SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION

(Category II)

Introduction

1. The Arab Women Solidarity Association (AWSA) is a pan-Arab organization for women. It was founded on 15 December 1982 and was accorded consultative status, category II, with the Economic and Social Council in April 1985.

2. The aims of AWSA are mainly to create a network of Arab women devoted to the cause of women's liberation, to educate and train women in related issues, and to provide them with the necessary organizational experience required to establish and run women's associations and movements in the Arab countries.

Activities

1990

3. The International Seminar on Women's Press and Publications in the Arab World was held in Cairo in September 1990 and was attended by 100 women from 11 Arab countries. Two seminar reports were printed in Arabic and English and were widely distributed to women's organizations as well as to institutions and individuals.

4. A meeting of experts from four Arab countries was held to plan the implementation of an AWSA/UNESCO project for producing audiovisual material for rural Arab women.

5. Local training seminars for women were held every two weeks

6. The AWSA periodical Noon was published quarterly.

1991

7. The activities described in paragraphs 5 and 6 above were continued.

8. AWSA participated in the international women's peace initiative against the Gulf War.

9. The implementation of the AWSA/UNESCO project continued, with the production of audiovisual material for rural Arab women (pilot, six songs, three booklets and one 20-minute fiction film, The Bride of the Nile).

1992

10. The AWSA/UNESCO project was continued.

11. The Third International AWSA Conference, on the theme, "Women, democracy and creativity", was held in September 1992. Forty participants from 10 Arab countries attended.

12. A 20-minute fiction film, The Violin, was produced; the film dealt with the negative effects of religious fundamentalism on the life of a young woman.

1993

13. The AWSA/UNESCO project was completed. Audiovisual material was sent to UNESCO in December 1993. The film Bride of the Nile received two international first-place prizes, at the Montpellier Film Festival (October 1993) and the Madrid Film Festival (November 1993).

14. The AWSA Algerian Group participated in the organization of a seminar on the theme "Women and madness", which was held in Algiers on 29 and 30 October 1993.

15. During 1990-1994, AWSA attended the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights, and the Economic and Social Council.

4. ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

(Category II)

Introduction

The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) is a world-wide organization representing over 8 million members in 65 countries. ACWW aims to raise the standards of living and education of women and their families all over the world through community development projects and training; promote international goodwill, friendship and understanding among women everywhere; work for the relief of poverty and sickness, and the protection and preservation of health; promote and encourage education; create equal opportunities for women by eliminating discrimination; and act as a forum on international affairs for rural women, speaking for them with an informed voice in the councils of the world.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council

ACWW has had consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since 1947; it attends Third Committee meetings on issues concerning women; is a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO) in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; and regularly attends CONGO Board and special meetings in Geneva and New York.

Commission on the Status of Women

At the thirty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, ACWW was a joint signatory to the statements on "Women and the environment", and "Elderly women: participation and political decision-making". ACWW sponsored a workshop on the theme "Women and unpaid work" as part of the official non-governmental organizations consultation on the theme "Making the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies work", which was held in conjunction with the session (22-23 February 1990). ACWW submitted the results of a membership survey on women's machinery and the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its expert committee, as a contribution to the non-governmental organizations input to the session.

At the thirty-fifth session of the Commission, ACWW made statements on the priority theme of Development: national, regional and international machinery for the effective integration of women in the development process, including non-governmental organizations, and participated in the non-governmental organizations consultation held in conjunction with the session (22-23 February 1991).

At the thirty-sixth session of the Commission, ACWW was a signatory to four joint non-governmental organizations statements on the priority theme "Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace"; attended a meeting of the Non-Governmental Organizations Planning Committee for the Fourth World Conference on Women (Vienna, 15-16 March 1992), held in conjunction with the session; and was a signatory to two further joint

statements on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies.

At the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, ACWW was a joint signatory to a non-governmental organizations' declaration on the elimination of violence against women, as well as to joint statements on violence against women, women in extreme poverty and monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies. ACWW cooperated with the Commission, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) through active participation in the official non-governmental organizations, status of women committees and their associated working groups at United Nations centres in New York, Geneva and Vienna, and at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Topics included women and rural development; employment; management and entrepreneurship; nutrition; the family; health; traditional practices affecting the health of women and children, HIV/AIDS, including the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Programme on AIDS; family life education; education; literacy; legal status; and environmental concerns. ACWW attended expert group and other meetings convened by the Division in Vienna on such topics as vulnerable women, with special emphasis on female heads of household (26-30 November 1990); the role of women in pubic life (September 1991); the impact of economic and political reforms on the status of women in eastern Europe and the former USSR (8-12 April 1991); and the integration of women in development (9-11 December 1991).

Commission for Social Development

At the thirty-second session of the Commission for Social Development, ACWW was a signatory to a joint non-governmental organizations statement on the International Year of the Family.

At the thirty-third session of the Commission, ACWW attended non-governmental organizations briefings and meetings on the World Summit for Social Development (New York, 14-25 June and 21 October 1993), as well as a CONGO meeting on non-governmental organizations contributions to the Summit (Geneva, 13 September 1993).

Commission on Human Rights

ACWW was a member of the Special Committee of International Non-Governmental Rights on Human Rights and of its Subcommittee on the Status of Women (Geneva, 1990-1993); was a signatory to a non-governmental organizations statement submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights at its first session, requesting a study on human rights and traditional practices; was an observer at the World Conference on Human Rights; and participated in the Non-Governmental Organizations Forum on Human Rights and parallel activities held in conjunction with the Conference.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

ACWW was a member of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on Drugs and Narcotic Abuse and regularly attended meetings of the Commission.

Regional economic commissions

ACWW has long advocated to its member societies the need for cooperation with the regional commissions. ACWW attended the ECE-sponsored Conference on Action for a Common Future (Bergen, 7-16 May 1990). In preparation for the European and North American region preparatory meeting (Vienna, October 1994) for the Fourth World Conference on Women, an ACWW member society in Norway (Norges Husmorforbund) was appointed by the Non-Governmental Organizations Planning Committee to be an information focal point for the above-mentioned region. ACWW participated in an official working group in Geneva that was responsible for the non-governmental organizations forum to be held in conjunction with the ECE preparatory meeting.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

UNCED was a priority activity for ACWW in both preparatory and follow-up phases. ACWW attended all four UNCED preparatory sessions, at which ACWW was a signatory to a joint non-governmental organizations statement on women, environment and development and submitted a statement and background paper on rural women and their potential contribution to environmental protection and development. ACWW participated in the World Women's Congress for a Health Planet (Miami, 8-12 November 1991), which adopted the Women's Action Agenda 21 "Towards 1991"; ACWW also attended the Global Conference (Paris, 17-20 December 1991); and participated in the Non-Governmental Organizations Global Forum held in conjunction with UNCED. ACWW has observer status with the Commission on Sustainable Development and attended its first session in New York. All four policy resolutions (on ozone protection; plant genetic resources; global warming; and the implementation of Agenda 21) adopted at the Twentieth Triennial Conference of ACWW in 1992 addressed UNCED and environmental concerns. Since UNCED, ACWW has encouraged its member societies to implement Agenda 21.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes/bodies and specialized agencies

United Nations Children's Fund

ACWW has had consultative status with UNICEF since 1953, and is a member of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF. ACWW is also involved in other United Nations activities related to the health and well-being of mothers and children; attended annual sessions of the UNICEF Executive Board; attended the world summits for children in New York and Geneva; was a co-sponsor of a non-governmental organizations statement to the World Summit for Children in Geneva; and promoted the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the plan of action for its implementation. ACWW is involved in ongoing efforts to implement those instruments and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially in the fields of mother and child health; nutrition; education; and the promotion of the status of women. ACWW participated in the work of non-governmental organizations Working Groups on the Convention of the Rights of the Child, the abuse of child labour, and the sexual exploitation of children, all held in Geneva. ACWW also attended a UNICEF

conference on the theme "Education of the girl child: her right, society's gain" (New York, 21-22 April 1992).

United Nations Population Fund

ACWW attended the Sixteenth UNFPA/Non-Governmental Organizations Consultation in Europe (Oslo, 21-22 May 1990) and a UNFPA expert group meeting on population and environment (New York, 4-5 March 1991). ACWW is deeply committed to improving the socio-economic status of women by providing them with access to information and services that enable them to exercise their reproductive rights and to improve the standard and quality of their lives through development opportunities. To those ends, ACWW was involved from the outset with the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development and attended the sessions of its Preparatory Committee, at which it submitted a statement, and was to have attended the Conference. ACWW was a signatory to the Women's Declaration on Population Policies (October 1993), and was a member of the Non-Governmental Organizations Planning Committee and Population Task Force for the Conference.

World Health Organization

ACWW had observer status on the WHO/Global Programme on Aids (GPA) Management Committee, attending its meetings during 1990-1992. ACWW is a member of the Geneva NGO Working Group on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children; participated in the United Nations Seminar on Traditional Practices (Burkina Faso, 29 April-3 May 1991); and was a signatory to the joint statement on that subject submitted to the first Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights. ACWW participated in the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Nutrition, which was jointly sponsored by WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. (ACWW is a member of the Non-Governmental Organizations Working Group on Nutrition in Geneva (FAO).)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

ACWW acquired consultative status with FAO in 1947. ACWW attended an FAO seminar on rural development through agri-tourism (Vienna, 5-9 March 1990); the FAO twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh conference sessions (Rome, 9-27 November 1991 and 6-25 November 1993); and the FAO Council's 102nd and 103rd sessions (Rome, November 1992 and June 1993). ACWW is a member of an informal group in consultative status with FAO. ACWW made an oral statement to a meeting held at FAO on 12 November 1991, and attended an FAO/Netherlands conference on agriculture and environment ('s-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands, 15-19 April 1991). ACWW mounted world-wide promotion and support for the report of the Secretary-General on national experience relating to the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/44/416). ACWW attended a meeting of the FAO Committee on Agriculture in April 1991.

World Food Programme

ACWW held consultations with WFP (November 1993), and attended the thirtieth session of the Committee on Food Aid Policies (Rome, 20-27 May 1991).

International Labour Organization

ACWW was represented at Annual International Labour Conference sessions in Geneva (1990-1992); and was a member of non-governmental organizations working groups on women and employment; abuse of child labour; employment; management and entrepreneurship.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

ACWW acquired consultative status with UNESCO in 1949.

ACWW was a member of the Non-Governmental Organizations Standing Committee and participated in working groups on sustainable development; the status of women; and the family. ACWW actively supported International Literacy Year 1990, Eighth Non-Governmental Organizations Consultation on the theme "Literacy: education for all" (Paris, 9-13 December 1991) and the Non-Governmental Organizations/UNESCO symposium on the theme "Educational functions of the family and cultural change" (12-13 March 1992). ACWW sponsors two international units under the UNESCO Co-Action Programme: (a) "Water for all", project No. 71, under which US$ 83,794 was granted to developing countries; 1990-1993 for clean water, sanitation and training in the construction/use/maintenance of basic related technology, such as solar wind pumps and tube wells; and (b) "Women feed the world", project No. 180, under which US$ 62,192 for improving production methods by upgrading skill training and equipments in areas such as dairy, sheep and poultry farming and the operation of grinding mills.

United Nations Development Fund for Women

ACWW acquired official relations with UNIFEM in 1989.

ACWW was a member of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNIFEM and attended monthly UNIFEM non-governmental organizational meetings in New York 1990-1993. Two members of an ACWW member society in Ghana participated in UNIFEM training workshops for non-governmental organizations on access to funding sources (Accra, 27-28 April 1993).

Other relevant activities

International Year of the Family (1994)

Since adopting the 1983 conference resolution in which it called on the United Nations to proclaim the International Year of the Family (IYF), ACWW has worked tirelessly to achieve one. During 1990-1993, ACWW, inter alia, promoted and advocated IYF and family concerns in ACWW meetings, publications, questionnaires and policy statements addressed to the United Nations system on family and related issues; urged its world-wide membership to promote national committees and local concern/support for IYF; actively participated in the official non-governmental organizations committees on the family in Vienna (founder member), New York and Paris; and cooperated through its representatives to the United Nations Office at Vienna with the IYF secretariat.

ACWW attended a non-governmental organizations consultation on the theme "Families and strategies for development" (New York, 5 June 1990); attended non-governmental organizations seminars on the themes "Family: A topic for international debate and action" (Vienna, February 1991), and "Family and environment: a partnership" (Vienna, 30 November-1 December 1992); participated in the World Non-Governmental Organizations Forum launching IYF (Malta, 28 November-2 December 1993); made a statement and was a co-signatory to non-governmental organizations joint statement presented to the IYF launching at the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly; and was awarded an IYF testimonial at the Forum in Malta in appreciation of its exemplary support of the IYF programme.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

At the 1992 Twentieth Triennial Conference, there were discussion groups on the status of women and decision-making; population and environment; and education and literacy. At the ACWW international workshop on the theme "Women in agricultural development" (Netherlands, 8-20 June 1992, 19 women from 12 developing countries in Africa, Asia and South America participated. The workshop aimed to promote leadership, management and enterprise skills; major topics included gender analysis, participation (including cooperatives, finance and legal rights), rural technology and extension methods and project planning. The ACWW 5-Year Global Development Programme received US$ 450,000 from Norway to promote leadership, skill training and health awareness among women in developing countries. To date, phase 1 - Malaysia 190, phase 2 - Colombia 1991, phase 3 - southern Africa 1992 and phase 4 - Central and South Asia 1993 have been successfully completed and follow-up work is under way. ACWW area conferences were held in 1990-1993 for East, West and Central Africa; southern Africa; Central and South Asia; East and South-East Asia; Canada; Latin America and the Caribbean; Europe; the South Pacific; and the United States of America. The conferences were related to either the CWW 1989 Triennial theme "Partners in progress" or the 1992 theme "Our world, our future". Topics at the conferences included the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

ACWW attended annual non-governmental organization/Department of Public Information conferences in New York in 1992.

Preparation of papers and/or other material at the request of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies or of the United Nations Secretariat

At the request of the Director, Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat (2 March 1990), ACWW prepared a written submission concerning its activities to promote the status of women, with special reference to machinery for the integration of women in development.

Other consultative and substantive activities

ACWW received US$ 16,750 in World Health Organization/Global Programme on AIDS programme grants partnership to fund the first year of a three-year programme to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS among the tribal people of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh States, southern India. ACWW had consultations with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to discuss possible areas of mutual cooperation, including the involvement of ACWW member societies with IFAD-sponsored projects in the field (Rome, 21 November 1993). ACWW had consultations with various bodies, including FAO and the World Food Programme, to discuss follow-up to earlier collaboration on women and agricultural development issues, as well as to explore possible new areas of mutual interest, including nutrition, cooperatives and plant genetic resources.

5. BAHA'I INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

(Category II)

Introduction

The Bahá'í International Community is engaged in a wide range of activities serving social, economic and spiritual needs. During the period under review, the Community has grown from 151 to 165 national/regional affiliates and from five to six million members, comprising a broad cross-section of humanity. Its cooperation with the United Nations system was bolstered by the addition of an office for the advancement of women and an office for the Pacific region, and by the expansion of activities in New York and Geneva. Bahá'í representation groups strengthened their relations with the former Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna; with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi; with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa; with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago; with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Bangkok; and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome.

Meetings, conferences and statements

During 1990-1993, the Community was represented at approximately 90 meetings of the United Nations system, including major United Nations conferences, sessions of the Economic and Social Council and its regional and functional commissions, committees and working groups, and other United Nations bodies. It contributed to those bodies and gatherings over 70 statements and reports on such issues as the advancement of women, sustainable development, education, health and human rights.

Advancement of women

Through its Office for the Advancement of Women, the Bahá'í International Community took part in annual sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Social Development; participated in United Nations conferences and seminars concerning women; and supported preparations for the International Year of the Family. It submitted reports and statements on the family, refugee women, girl children, partnership with men, alleviating rural poverty, and the importance of involving women in decision-making, sustainable development, and the peace process. As Chairman of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on the Status of Women and a member of the Facilitating Committee for Non-Governmental Organizations Forum '95, the Bahá'í International Community is heavily involved in non-governmental organizations preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women and the parallel Non-Governmental Organizations Forum, while encouraging and coordinating participation by national Bahá'í communities. Efforts to implement the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies included a Bahá'í project funded by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). The two-year project entitled "Traditional media as change agent" used music, drama, stories and dance to stimulate village-wide

discussions about women's roles. By including men as partners in a dynamic process to change attitudes, the venture succeeded in improving the status of women in the project locations in Bolivia, Cameroon and Malaysia. Finally, as Convenor of Advocates for African Food Security: Lessening the Burden on Women - a coalition of non-governmental organizations, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental organizations - the Community helped raise awareness among policy makers of the critical role of women farmers in ending the food crisis in Africa.

Environment, development, education and health

The Bahá'í International Community, through its office of the environment, participated fully and substantially in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), contributing a number of statements; attended all UNCED preparatory meetings and many non-governmental organizations conferences; helped to plan and carry out the parallel Global Forum; donated a peace monument to the citizens of Rio de Janeiro through its national affiliates; and addressed the plenary of UNCED itself. The Bahá'í International Community attended all regular sessions of the UNEP Governing Council, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the second ministerial session of the World Climate Conference. Community statements on environment and development addressed the importance of non-governmental organizations to the UNCED process, the oneness of humanity, the Earth Charter, international legislation, world citizenship, and partnership between men and women. The Bahá'í International Community contributed substantially to the World Conference on Education for All and its follow-up activities. It was instrumental in establishing the Education for All Network and assisted with two major United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) conferences: one in Zimbabwe on the theme "Child development in Africa", and one in New York on the theme "Education of the girl child". Primary health care activities have been undertaken by a number of national Bahá'í communities in Africa and Asia, and by the Bahá'í International Community, which established working relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1989 and supported the development of a model training programme for community health workers. The Bahá'í International Community participated in annual sessions of the World Health Assembly at Geneva and the accompanying technical discussions, as well as in annual sessions of the executive boards of WHO and UNICEF. It also participated substantially in the International Conference on Nutrition and its preparatory process. Community statements addressed the girl child, the prevention of drug abuse, teacher preparation, educating girls, educational models, literacy and basic education delivery systems.

Human rights and refugees

The Bahá'í International Community contributed to deliberations on a wide range of issues during annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities. It participated in the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and submitted proposals on draft instruments to the Working Group on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and

Protect Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, as well as to the Working Group on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National, Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities. It participated in the World Conference on Human Rights and in all sessions of its Preparatory Committee as well as its regional preparatory meetings in Tunis; San José, Costa Rica; and Bangkok. Statements during this period addressed the right to development, combating racism, the protection of minorities, freedom of religion or belief, the rights of the child, women's rights, individual responsibility to protect human rights, the rights of indigenous populations, extreme poverty, obstacles to human rights progress and the indivisibility of human rights. The Community also worked with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), attending yearly sessions of the UNHCR Executive Committee and participating in the formal consultations and informal meetings between UNHCR and its non-governmental operational partners.

Non-governmental organizations community work

As active participants in the non-governmental organizations community at United Nations Headquarters in New York and in its offices at Geneva and Vienna, Community staff served as officers on non-governmental committees and working groups on the family, the status of women, the Vienna Non-Governmental Organizations Forum '93, the Beijing Non-Governmental Organizations Forum '95, human rights, freedom of religion or belief, development and the rights of the child, as well as on the Special Committee of International Non-Governmental Organizations on Human Rights. The Community also served as Secretary of the CONGO Board and as a member of the Board of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on UNICEF.

Information activities

The Bahá'í International Community continued to inform its affiliates world wide about the United Nations and its activities, encouraging Bahá'í communities to initiate activities in support of special United Nations programmes, decades, years or days. It also helped plan and carry out annual Department of Public Information/non-governmental organizations conferences in New York. Its quarterly newsletter, One Country, has carried information about United Nations activities to more than 25,000 readers in at least 150 countries. Stories related to the United Nations included comprehensive before-and-after coverage of UNCED; coverage of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights; and a story about lead-up activities for the Fourth World Conference on Women. One Country also devoted stories to the work of the Advocates for African Food Security; a UNICEF non-governmental organizations forum in Zimbabwe; and a joint UNIFEM-Bahá'í development project in Bolivia, Cameroon and Malaysia. Its last issue in 1993 was published in English, French, Chinese, Russian, Spanish and German.

6. FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION

(Category II)

The Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) sponsors full-time teams for its representation at the United Nations/Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) in Geneva and New York, as well as voluntary representatives to UNESCO and the United Nations Office at Vienna. Members of those teams observe the work of the various bodies of the United Nations, make occasional interventions, bring delegates together informally and keep the Quaker constituency and other interested groups informed on issues relating to United Nations activities.

Substantive activities

Participation in conferences and other meetings organized by the United Nations

Representatives of QUNO/Geneva regularly attended United Nations meetings in Geneva, including those of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Conference on Disarmament, the Executive Committee of UNHCR and meetings of human rights treaty bodies.

Staff of QUNO/New York regularly attend and monitor the meetings of the General Assembly, the Disarmament Commission, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council and the Security Council, and a number of their subsidiary bodies. QUNO representatives from London and New York also attended the Commission on the Status of Women in Vienna each year, as well as the World Conference on Human Rights, specifically following the issues of violence against women; monitoring the human rights of women; and the role of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. FWCC placed an intern in the United Nations Office at Vienna for one year to work on a study on the treatment of life-sentence prisoners.

Quaker representatives have made oral and written statements on behalf of FWCC for United Nations documents on abolition of the death penalty; conscientious objection to military service; children in situations of armed conflict; promotion of human rights; indigenous peoples; internally displaced persons; rights of the mentally ill; the right to leave and return; and the work of the Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

Cooperation with the United Nations system

QUNO and related Quaker organizations, the American Friends Service Committee, and Quaker Peace and Service cooperated with various agencies of the United Nations bodies (the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), UNHCR and UNIFEM) on a number of programmes in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Cambodia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Somalia and Central America in such areas as the needs of

refugees and internally displaced persons; the protection of women and children; education; training; irrigation and food and water supplies.

Both QUNO/New York and QUNO/Geneva supported the creation of a protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to raise the enlistment age to 18.

Consultative activities

Disarmament and peace initiatives

QUNO worked with the Conference on Disarmament, in particular on the negotiations leading to the Chemical Weapons Treaty. A number of conferences were organized in Geneva at various stages of the negotiations and a further series on chemical weapons and security issues in the Middle East was held in both the Middle East and in Geneva. QUNO/Geneva has followed closely the establishment of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague, and the access of non-governmental organizations to its sessions and documentation. QUNO/Geneva also organized seminars for diplomats and academics on issues relating to the treaty review conferences held in Geneva during that period.

QUNO/New York supported initiatives to control land mines and to advance the United Nations register of Conventional Arms. QUNO/New York has also been involved with national peace initiatives supported by the United Nations in the Republic of Korea, Myanmar, South Africa, southern Africa, the Horn of Africa and Palestine, and has monitored the expansion of the role of peace-keeping forces.

Human rights

QUNO staff and volunteers have concentrated on the abolition of the death penalty; child soldiers; conscientious objection to military services; the rights of women; the rights of the child; mentally ill; internally displaced persons; and humanitarian law. In addition, QUNO/New York monitored preparations for the Decade of Indigenous People (1993) as well as the drafting of the Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People.

Refugees and migrant workers

Refugee women and refugee situations in Indo-China and Central America have received attention from QUNO/Geneva, while QUNO/New York has encouraged ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. QUNO/New York also worked towards the establishment of a non-governmental organizations international migrant rights watch committee.

Development and environment/population

QUNO/New York organized for diplomats negotiating UNCED agreements informal consultations on:

(a) The Convention on Biological Diversity;

(b) Issues before UNCED PrepCom IV;

(c) UNCED PrepCom II;

(d) UNCED preparations.

QUNO/New York also monitored the work of the General Assembly in preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development.

New programmes are being developed in Geneva to work on trade and development issues with such international bodies as UNCTAD, the ILO and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Information activities

Newsletters, briefing papers, reports and booklets are published by QUNO/New York and QUNO/Geneva and distributed to Quakers, diplomats, the United Nations secretariat, academics, concerned individuals and periodicals throughout the world. United Nations work is regularly reported in Quaker periodicals. Staff and volunteers from both offices make frequent speaking appearances to interpret United Nations work. One-year internships at both offices enable young graduates to become familiar with United Nations procedures. QUNO/Geneva conducts an annual 12-day residential summer school for young people (aged 20-25) of many nationalities to study the work of the United Nations. Quaker Peace and Service (London) holds an annual three-day residential seminar for young people (aged 17-20) to introduce them to the work of the United Nations.

7. INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MIGRATION COMMISSION

(Category II)

The International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC) undertakes a variety of actions to meet the needs, alleviate the suffering and assure the protection of refugees, migrants and displaced persons world wide. Established in 1951 by the Holy See to coordinate the activities of national Catholic service agencies on behalf of migrants and refugees, ICMC has since built up a network of partner structures in more then 70 countries. ICMC works wherever it can achieve the greatest impact, in partnership with Governments, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional and national episcopal conferences, and national partners.

In the immediate post-World War II years ICMC efforts were focused on resettling large numbers of refugees and uprooted persons in Europe. The next major ICMC undertaking was to assist migrant workers from southern Europe who sought employment opportunities in northern Europe and elsewhere. The cold war, in particular the regional conflicts that it spawned, became the major producer of refugees. Indeed, for over four decades many people perceived refugees exclusively in cold war terms. Despite the apparent end of the cold war, however, the world's refugee population has dramatically increased. Ethnic hatred, intolerance and nationalism have been unleashed without the counterbalance of forces that existed in the old world order. Recognizing that organizations involved in humanitarian operations should resist those negative trends, and also concerned to ensure appropriate protection and assistance for the victims of such injustice and conflict, the ICMC network has undertaken, since 1990, a reassessment of its goals and activities in the light of new realities and future challenges.

That reassessment has culminated in the formulation of a strategic plan of action that targets areas for future ICMC activity. The plan includes providing assistance for internally displaced persons, including ethnic and religious minorities; ensuring the protection of particularly vulnerable groups, such as women and children, the disabled, the elderly and the victims of ethnic hatred; supporting the capacity-building of national partners so that they can respond effectively to the challenges of voluntary and forced migration; improving the collection and dissemination of information on migration issues; and promoting durable solutions, specifically repatriation and resettlement.

Those diverse areas of ICMC activity echo the concerns and activities of several subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council. During the period 1990-1993, that community of interests led to various forms of cooperative and complementary action between ICMC and several United Nations bodies, of which the most important was ICMC's manifold collaboration with UNHCR, a collaboration that resulted in the implementation of several projects on behalf of UNHCR.

Within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan of Action adopted by the International Conference on Indo-Chinese Refugees (Geneva, 13 and 14 June 1989, see A/44/523), ICMC recruited some 75 Vietnamese/English interpreters for the first asylum camps in four South-East Asian countries and in Hong Kong. The interpreters assist UNHCR and national interviewers in the refugee status

determination process. In addition, within the context of the Plan of Action and under financing from UNHCR, ICMC implements a micro-enterprise management and skills training programme in the Philippines for Vietnamese who volunteer to return home. The programme orients refugees towards self-sufficiency after repatriation.

Other examples of ICMC acting as an implementing agency for UNHCR include channelling care and maintenance assistance to refugees in Turkey; processing Bosnian refugees for third country resettlement; providing primary health education, food-sufficiency and income-generation initiatives for refugee returnees in Battambang Province, Cambodia; and providing primary education and adult literacy for Tuareg refugees from Mali in Mauritania. Moreover, ICMC national partner agencies collaborate directly with UNHCR and other relief organizations to provide emergency relief assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons.

The period under consideration was particularly marked by increased ICMC collaboration with other Economic and Social Council agencies. For example, in Cambodia, the World Food Programme provides rice, cooking oil and dried fish for an ICMC integrated training and assistance programme for disadvantaged Khmer women and their dependants. UNICEF funds an ICMC transitional living centre for homeless women and their children. UNESCO supported an ICMC literacy programme for demobilized soldiers and their families. The Centre for Human Rights of the United Nations Secretariat supports the human rights for women and communities component of an ICMC women's programme in Battambang Province.

In view of its concern for the rights of migrants, refugees and displaced persons, ICMC either participated in or contributed to the preparation of non-governmental organizations statements presented to various United Nations conferences and meetings on issues linked to migration and displacement, including sessions of the Commission on Human Rights and the World Conference on Human Rights. As chair of the Geneva-based CONGO Working Group on Refugee and Displaced Women, ICMC instigated and contributed in the preparation of statements presented to those conferences, calling attention to the problems and needs of the victims of violence and conflict. ICMC collaboration with the human rights bodies of the United Nations also included participation in studies conducted by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, such as its studies on internally displaced persons and on possible ways and means of facilitating the peaceful and constructive solution of problems involving minorities.

Similarly, ICMC has widely disseminated copies of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990. Over the past two years, ICMC has embarked on an awareness campaign and has built coalitions for advocacy among church, human rights and migrant groups in order to encourage more Member States of the United Nations to ratify and properly apply that important international agreement.

ICMC regularly attends meetings and briefings organized by UNHCR and the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat. Most of those briefings are country specific. Over the past four years, ICMC has participated in briefings given by those two bodies on refugee situations in the

Horn of Africa, Mozambique, Afghanistan, Burundi, Rwanda, Myanmar, Albania, northern Iraq, former Yugoslavia, other countries in Europe, Angola, Cambodia and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

In addition to attending meetings and conferences organized by subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, ICMC has invited the participation of representatives of UNHCR, the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNESCO, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) at its own meetings. Those meetings, which were held in Geneva and cities in Africa, Asia, Latin America and North America, have served as an opportunity for identifying the main migration and refugee needs and for clarifying the most appropriate response for ICMC to make in cooperation with United Nations and local Catholic bodies.

8. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SOCIETIES OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

(Category II)

The International Council of Societies of Industrial Design (ICSID) was formally established in London in 1957 and has grown into a global force of industrial design. It is governed by a body of 113 professional, promotional and associate members representing 43 different countries.

Aim

The overall aim of ICSID is to advance the discipline of industrial design. It fosters a greater understanding of industrial design through international cooperation, communication and promotion. ICSID collects and disseminates information about industrial design to its members, as well as to Governments, institutions, industry and the general public. ICSID stimulates creativity and establishes the highest standards of quality and excellence in the practice of industrial design. It also contributes to the study of industrial design at academic and research institutions.

Cooperation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

For many years, there have been intensive contacts between the representatives of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and ICSID. A meeting was held in Vienna on 13 November 1991 between the representatives of UNIDO and the President, Secretary-General and UNIDO liaison Office of ICSID. During the meeting, it was agreed that:

(a) A UNIDO/ICSID working group would be nominated to prepare an annual plan of action for the collaboration;

(b) The UNIDO/ICSID plan of action would be prepared on a long-term policy basis. The focus of the various joint activities to be undertaken would be studied and special commitments made with, for example, ICSID member societies in developing countries and non-member organizations in Latin America and Africa. The utilization of industrial design expertise was seen as a valuable investment in those areas.

Cooperative structure

The ICSID representatives of the working group visited UNIDO in December 1992 to establish a basis for cooperation in three distinct areas:

(a) Promoting the importance of industrial design in the manufacturing process, entrepreneurs and government officials in developing countries;

(b) Strengthening institutional design capability by holding UNIDO regional workshops in countries where design awareness was weak or non-existent;

(c) Training design engineers in specific industrial sectors to improve the design capability for export-oriented industries.

The working group proposed that the ICSID Board should hold one Board meeting in 1994 in the central Africa subregion. The Board Meeting should be combined with a one-day design seminar, with Board members lecturing on design issues to representatives of Government, commerce and other fields related to industrial design.

The ICSID liaison office to UNIDO in Vienna later contacted UNIDO to seek assistance in searching for professional, promotional or educational design associations/institutions in Africa. It is the intention of ICSID to establish contacts with such societies for the promotion of industrial design following the ICSID/UNIDO structure of collaboration.

Regional programmes

It has been an important issue on the agenda of the 1992-1993 Executive Board to promote the issue of industrial design and increase ICSID membership, especially in Latin America; agreements have been established with international non-governmental organizations to create design awareness in that region. New members have joined ICSID from Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Cuba. Close cooperation with Chile and Uruguay was established at the end of 1993.

1992-1993 programme

Regional design events to promote industrial design have been developed in collaboration with the new members. New links and partnerships have been set up favouring cooperation on the professional, promotional and educational levels. The 1992-1993 programme consisted of the following objectives:

(a) To organize an ICSID interdesign workshop in Brazil in 1993, on the theme "Creative use of reforested pine-wood";

(b) To update the Latin American directory of educators and researchers in design;

(c) To organize an international forum on the theme "Design and cultural diversity" in Brazil in 1994;

(d) To promote the consolidation of regional cooperation and a Latin American design network;

(e) To assist in the establishment of new postgraduate design courses;

(f) To support the establishment of new design centres and laboratories;

(g) To promote the development of joint research projects;

(h) To extend the number of institutions associated with ICSID.

Cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization

ICSID was granted observer membership with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The growing economic importance of industrial design is

making the problem of legal practices more acute. Design protection represents a wide and problematic area in the design field. A special session on design protection was therefore organized in connection with the Seventeenth ICSID World Congress in Ljubijana, Slovenia, in May 1992.

The ICSID legal adviser on design protection law and practice represented ICSID and the interests of industrial designers at the Committee of Experts Meeting on the Updating of the Hague Agreement on the International Deposit of Industrial Designs (Geneva, 27-29 April 1992). It was decided that ICSID would cooperate with the International Council of Graphic Design Associations and the International Federation of Interior Architects/Interior Designers on the subject of design protection.

ICSID was represented in 1992-1993 by its legal adviser at the following WIPO meetings:

(a) A WIPO committee convened to discuss the revision of the Hague Agreement on International Design Registration;

(b) A working party of non-governmental organizations convened to consider ways of resolving international disputes in the intellectual property field;

(c) The annual WIPO consultation with its recognized non-governmental organizations about its future work programme.

The ICSID official adviser on design protection law and practice has represented ICSID regularly at WIPO meetings and symposiums. ICSID observer status has considerably strengthened ICSID role in working for the further development of design protection.

9. INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS AND LIBERATION OF PEOPLES

(Category II)

The International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples (LIDLIP) devotes its work to the promotion of the rights of peoples. Peoples, not individuals, are the interlocutors and partners of LIDLIP. The essence of LIDLIP activity in United Nations forums is to help peoples to become subjects of law. Currently, only States are the subject of law. As a rule, peoples have no say. Nations are composed of peoples. LIDLIP functions as the intermediary mouthpiece of those peoples who have no access to United Nations human rights bodies.

1990

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights, presenting oral statements on foreign debt; the right to development; the human rights situation in the Philippines and Sri Lanka; Eritrea and Ethiopia; Colombia; Iraq; and advisory services in Haiti and Guatemala. Written communications dealt with: Palestine (E/CN.4/1990/NGO/21); the self determination of peoples and intervention in Panama (E/CN.4/1990/NGO/32); impunity in Colombia (E/CN.4/1990/NGO/31); El Salvador (E/CN.4/1990/NGO/25); and Guatemala (E/CN.4/1990/NGO/26). LIDLIP made a specific written contribution to the document "Analytical compilation of comments and views on the implementation and further enhancement of the Declaration on the Right to Development, prepared by the Secretary-General" (E/CN.4/1990/33).

At the first regular session of 1990 of the Economic and Social Council, LIDLIP took the initiative of submitting a joint written non-governmental organizations communication (E/1990/NGO/4), making several proposals on the enhancement of human rights work by the United Nations in general, as well as more specifically suggesting that the venue for sessions of the commission be subject to rotation in the different regions of the world in order to facilitate access to the peoples concerned.

The Secretary-General of LIDLIP participated with representatives of two other non-governmental organizations in a fact-finding mission to Kosovo, former Yugoslavia, from 1 to 6 July 1993; a report on the mission was subsequently prepared and circulated.

LIDLIP actively participated in the eighth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and made an oral statement on behalf of the Negritos of Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and the Andaman Islands.

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-second session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, presenting oral statements on the Yanomani Indians in Brazil; Central America; prisoners of war in Western Sahara and the Eritrean civilian population; the Armenian population of Nagorny Karabakh and Kosovo; the Kurds in Turkey and Iraq; international instruments; and the right to development. Written

communications focused on the Batwa people in Burundi (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/NGO/20); impunity in Latin America (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/NGO/10); and A Call for Action, which was adopted by the Peoples' Summit in Houston, United States of America (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1990/NGO/11).

LIDLIP made an oral presentation on East Timor to the Committee on Decolonization.

1991

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, presenting oral statements on Palestine; Zaire; the self-determination of the Kurdish, Eritrean and Timorese peoples; Guatemala; the Brazilian Amazon; and impunity in Latin America. LIDLIP delivered a joint non-governmental organizations statement on population transfer. Written communications focused on Guatemala (E/CN.4/1991/NGO/16) and aspects of debt, the involvement of the IMF and World Bank, and the deterioration of the eco-balance in the Brazilian Amazon (E/CN.4/1991/NGO/6 and 7).

LIDLIP submitted a joint non-governmental organizations written communication (E/1991/NGO/3) to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1991 concerning resources for the Centre for Human Rights and the question of advisory services; attended the ninth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations; and made a written and oral statement on Puerto Rico to the Special Committee of the United Nations on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-third session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, presenting oral statements on South Africa; arbitrary imprisonment in South Korea; the right to sovereignty of the people of Kosovo; servicing foreign debt in the Philippines; and impunity. A written communication was entitled "Water for the Palestinians" (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1991/NGO/14).

LIDLIP attended the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights; participated as a member in the General Assembly of CONGO; monitored the forty-third session of the Human Rights Committee; attended the International Symposium on New Forms of Racism; attended the Working Group on the Question of the Draft Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances; monitored the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and provided an input to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.

1992

LIDLIP participated in the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights.

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights presenting oral statements on: Palestine; the right to development in Madagascar, Sri Lanka and Bhutan; the right to self-determination

of the peoples of Kosovo, Western Sahara and East Timor; the detention of Kurdish people in Turkey; impunity in Venezuela; the human rights situation in El Salvador and Guatemala; Haiti; and the Penan people in Sarawak. Written communications focused on the economic embargo against Cuba (E/CN.4/1992/NGO/12) and Guatemala (E/CN.4/1992/NGO/11). A joint non-governmental organizations written communication referred to the draft declaration on enforced disappearance.

At the forty-fourth session of the Human Rights Committee, LIDLIP submitted a dossier concerning the implementation of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights in Colombia.

LIDLIP monitored the tenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-fourth session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, presenting oral statements on impunity and reparation; Turkish Kurdistan; cultural rights in Euskadi; impunity; military tribunals in Colombia and Venezuela; as the Penan people in Sarawak; the Palestinians' right to return; proposal for an international criminal court; and the Los Angeles riots. Written communications covered impunity (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1992/NGO/20), and racism and discrimination (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1992/NGO/1). LIDLIP drafted and distributed a working paper entitled "Racism and discrimination: human rights concerns", which referred to incidents in Los Angeles, South Africa and Europe, as well as the situation of the Burakumins, the Koreans and the Ainus in Japan.

LIDLIP monitored the first special session of the Commission on Human Rights on Former Yugoslavia; participated in the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights; participated in an international meeting on impunity for perpetrators of gross human rights violations; and monitored the Second Special Session of the Commission on Human Rights on Former Yugoslavia.

1993

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, making oral statements on: Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo; the occupied Arab territories; Palestinians in Israel; the right to self-determination of the peoples of Tibet, Kurdistan and Western Sahara; impunity in Rwanda, Spain, Peru and Venezuela; internally displaced persons and armed groups in Peru and Guatemala; the violation of human rights in El Salvador, East Timor and Haiti; and states of emergency in Colombia.

On the question of impunity, LIDLIP published and circulated Impunity, Impunidad, Impunité, a compilation of articles on the phenomenon as it exists throughout the world. Each of the articles appears in its original language (English, French or Spanish), with a brief summary of its contents in the two other languages.

LIDLIP attended the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights.

The Secretary-General of LIDLIP travelled to Eritrea from 23 to 25 April 1993 following an official invitation to participate in the United Nations Observer Mission to Verify the Referendum in Eritrea.

LIDLIP participated in the Non-Governmental Organizations Forum on Human Rights and in the parallel activities taking place in the framework of the World Conference on Human Rights; attended the World Conference on Human Rights; and monitored the eleventh session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

LIDLIP actively participated in the forty-fifth session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities and made oral statements on military criminal courts; Sri Lanka, Western Sahara and El Salvador; Tibet; the creation of a Commission of Enlightenment on Crimes against Mankind; and the Hadza people in Tanzania.

LIDLIP monitored the first session of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Commission on Human Rights; monitored the eighth session of the Committee of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and participated in the panel at the commemoration of the forty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

10. PAX ROMANA (INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC MOVEMENT FOR INTELLECTUAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS) (INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF CATHOLIC STUDENTS)

(Category II)

Aims and objectives

Pax Romana aims to:

(a) Build a network of communication and information based on our commitment as Christian students and intellectuals/professionals to work for a society of peace based on justice and freedom;

(b) Build a community of lay faithful within the Catholic Church in active solidarity with the poor throughout the world;

(c) Search for a more humane means of scientific and technical development;

(d) Promote intercultural dialogue in a universal framework;

(e) Search for new forms of development.

In addition, Pax Romana has specific specialized secretariats for jurists; scientists; secondary teachers; engineers, agronomists and business executives; and Christian artists. There are 80 branches of Pax Romana world wide.

Participation in meetings of the Economic and Social Council and other United Nations bodies during 1990-1993

1990

For the eleventh special session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Pax Romana prepared a statement on demand reduction for drugs.

For the Commission on the Status of Women, Pax Romana prepared the statement submitted by the Vienna Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on the status of women on equality in participation and political decision-making (E/CN.6/1990/NGO/5).

Pax Romana participated in a conference organized by the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat and the non-governmental organizations community on the theme "A world safe for children: meeting the challenge of the 1990s".

Pax Romana participated with other southern non-governmental organizations in the preparation of the Global Consultation on the Right to Development.

At the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights, Pax Romana made both oral and written interventions on the human rights situation in,

inter alia, East Timor, Colombia, Guatemala and El Salvador. At the same session, Pax Romana initiated a joint statement entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development", which was presented to the Commission by Pax Romana on 12 February 1990.

At the forty-second session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, Pax Romana made oral/ written interventions on the human rights situation in, inter alia, East Timor, Uruguay and Venezuela.

At a conference on the theme "Together for peace - The United Nations and non-governmental organizations in a changing world", the Secretary-General of Pax Romana spoke on the theme "Sharing and protecting the richness and diversity of cultures".

1991

Pax Romana participated in the thirty-second session of the Commission for Social Development and the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

Pax Romana participated in a conference held jointly in New York by the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat and the non-governmental organizations community on the theme "Peace, justice, development: ingredients for an emerging world order"; Pax Romana also participated in an earlier preparatory session.

At the forty-seventh session of the Commission on Human Rights, Pax Romana made both oral and written interventions on the human rights situation in East Timor, Peru, Sri Lanka and Guatemala, as well as on external debt and the right to development, and religious intolerance in Singapore.

Pax Romana participated in a seminar on the theme "The South Commission Report and non-governmental organizations".

1992

Pax Romana participated in preparatory meetings for the International Year of the Family and the Fourth World Conference on Women.

Pax Romana worked with other religious non-governmental organizations in a Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief; their views were submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights.

Pax Romana was represented at the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

1993

Pax Romana was represented and participated actively in the Non-Governmental Organizations Forum on Human Rights and the World Conference on Human Rights.

At the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, Pax Romana made both oral and written interventions on the situation of human rights in Viet Nam, Guatemala and the Sudan.

Pax Romana participated in the forty-fifth session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

Pax Romana was represented at the Asian regional preparatory meeting of the World Conference on Human Rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Pax Romana has maintained good working relations with the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the ILO, WHO, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNDP and UNESCO.

Other relevant activities: consultations, non-governmental organizations meetings, implementation of United Nations resolutions etc.

Pax Romana participated in non-governmental organizations committees on, inter alia, the disabled; youth; the status of women; ageing; peace; narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; the alliance of non-governmental organizations on crime prevention and criminal justice; and the family.

Pax Romana was represented at the Non-Governmental Organizations World Forum on the theme "Promoting the family for the well-being of people and society" and it signed the Malta Statement of the World Non-Governmental Organizations Forum Launching the International Year of the Family.

11. SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

(Category I)

Soroptimist International (SI) is an association of soroptimist federations with 94,017 members and 2,920 clubs in 108 countries and territories. Its objectives are (a) to maintain high ethical standards in business, the professions and other areas of human activity; (b) to strive for human rights for all people, in particular to advance the status of women; (c) to develop a spirit of friendship and unity among soroptimists of all countries; (d) to quicken the spirit of service and human understanding; and (e) to contribute to international understanding and universal friendship. Clubs world wide work within the same six programme areas: economic and social development; education; environment; health; human rights/status of women; and international goodwill and understanding. SI policy is to focus on national and international issues that relate to its objectives and programmes. On matters involving political controversy among nations, party politics or sectarian religion, SI maintains a strict neutrality.

Participation in conferences and other meetings

SI representatives have participated in the meetings of the Economic and Social Council, numerous preparatory committees, and subsidiary bodies dealing with the status of women; the elimination of discrimination against women; narcotic drugs; health; the prevention and control of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS); traditional practices adversely affecting the health of women and children; population; human rights; the rights of the child; crime prevention; environment; sustainable development; cultural development; the family; elderly and dependent women; youth; anti-slavery practices; the prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities; refugee women; violence against women; activities for children in eastern and central Europe; education of the girl child; and preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women. SI has also been represented at other meetings, bodies and conferences, including the World Conference on Education for All; the Commission on the Status of Women; the Commission for Social Development; the Commission on Narcotic Drugs; the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice; the Commission on Human Rights; the International Labour Conference; the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth UNESCO Collective Consultations on Literacy; the Global Assembly of Women and the Environment and World Women's Congress for a Healthy Planet; the Meeting of Peace Messenger Organizations (Sochi, former USSR, 1991); the International Conference on Nutrition; the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; the fourth international seminar on the theme "Family and environment: a partnership" (SI made a presentation); the World Health Assembly; the World Conference on Human Rights (SI organized a seminar and exhibition); the thirty-seventh ICAA and Interregional Non-Governmental Organizations Conference; the Expert Group Meeting on Increased Awareness by Women of their Rights (Bratislava, Slovakia, 1993); and the World Non-Governmental Organizations Forum launching the International Year of the Family (Malta, 1993). Statements were made to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its first session; the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations on Adoption of Agenda

and Other Organizational Matters at the first regular session of 1993 of the Economic and Social Council; the World Conference on Human Rights; and the World Forum launching the International Year of the Family. SI joined with other non-governmental organizations in preparing and signing over 30 statements to the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies between 1990 and 1993.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

SI has representatives accredited to the Economic and Social Council in New York, Geneva and Vienna; UNHCR in Geneva; UNICEF in New York and Geneva; the ILO in Geneva; and UNESCO in Paris. SI has official relations with the World Health Organization in Geneva. SI representatives have served on various non-governmental organizations committees and working groups, in areas such as the status of women; shelter and community; development funding for the advancement of women; ageing; narcotics; the family; sustainable development; youth; women's health; entrepreneurship; the rights of the child; child labour; child prostitution and child pornography; child sexual abuse; women refugees; traditional practices adversely affecting the health of women and children; nutrition; and development. SI has also actively participated in the CONGO Board and was elected a CONGO member in 1991.

UNICEF donated over US$ 513,000 to the 1987-1991 SI International Project, an integrated development programme for women in 14 village areas in Cajamarca province, Peru. With the cooperation of local soroptimists, the grant provided improved social services, training in self-help techniques, and basic education in improving health and nutrition. In addition, Danish soroptimists supplied emergency equipment for hospitals in Peru and established clinics in Sierra Leone, at a cost of over 100 million Danish kroner.

UNIFEM donated US$ 66,500 to a project in Lesotho to assist rural women by providing training in appropriate technology, and £51,000 (about US$ 76,500) to a project in Orissa, India, to train women in aquaculture techniques to enable them to be economically self-sufficient.

WHO supported a project for vocational and educational development for northern Thai village women to prevent prostitution and HIV/AIDS. SI is one of the five women's non-governmental organizations responsible for Project FIVE-O, a cooperative venture being undertaken in collaboration with UNESCO Co-Action to help women in developing countries in vocational and other training.

Implementation of United Nations resolutions

Soroptimists work to promote relationships with the United Nations at three levels: local, national and international. They share awareness, advocacy and action, joining together to accomplish projects in support of United Nations resolutions. Delegates at the Fourteenth Quadrennial Convention (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, August 1991) voted to adopt the 1991-1995 Programme Focus: Agenda for Soroptimist Action, with topics based on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women and UNCED. Soroptimists world wide continue to urge their national Governments to ratify and sign the Convention on

the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and support laws granting gender equality. They also advocate the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. SI clubs have responded to United Nations special years, including the International Year of Literacy and the International Year of Indigenous People and have already been awarded a testimonial in recognition of their exemplary support of the International Year of the Family. Work continues to advance the status of women. SI donated US$ 85,000 in 1990 to a project in Rishilpi, Bangladesh, to train disadvantaged women in income-generating skills, and it granted £59,000 (about US$ 88,500) to an AIDS support organization project in northern Uganda for the refurbishment of a hospital to help women and children affected by HIV/AIDS.

Consultations

Consultations on items of concern to SI being debated by relevant United Nations bodies have taken place continuously between SI representatives and members of the United Nations Secretariat in New York, Geneva and Vienna. Between 1990 and 1993, SI international presidents visited and had regular consultations with the Secretariat, and the specialized agencies in New York, Geneva and Vienna, and with UNESCO in Paris.

Preparation of papers and/or other material at the request of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, or of the United Nations Secretariat

Many questionnaires and communications addressed to non-governmental organizations by United Nations bodies received the full attention of SI, whether requests for information or invitations to nominate experts to take part in special activities.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

Economic and Social Development

Soroptimists world wide worked for equal employment opportunities, with an emphasis on economic literacy, by advocating for the abolition of prejudices; the promotion of training of women and youth, particularly in non-traditional occupations; equal pay for work of equal value; and flexibility of employment conditions in order to provide compatibility of work with family life. They encouraged the social and economic integration of migrant women by studying and rectifying the causes, impact and problems involved as well as advocating the prevention of exploitation, and actively encouraged women entrepreneurs by supporting all business enterprises, promoting income-generating projects, and acknowledging the role of women in decision-making and as role models for female advancement.

Education

Soroptimists funded and supported basic and functional literacy programmes; hosted language training for migrant women; advocated for the adequate provision of library services; and provided scholarships to enable women to develop

literacy skills. They encouraged education in parenting; promoted the provision of training opportunities for women and girls, particularly in scientific, technical and managerial subjects; and actively promoted re-entry programmes for women. Many thousands of dollars were donated to literacy projects around the world in support of the sincere belief of SI that education for women is the key to progress in relation to the ultimate goal of equality, development and peace.

Environment

Soroptimists performed studies and carried out projects on the quality of air, water and soil, particularly focusing on acid rain; the greenhouse effect and health damage; marine and freshwater conditions; sanitation; pollution; deforestation; and erosion. They worked to combat the problems of solid and hazardous wastes and toxic chemicals, encouraging new management technologies wherever possible, for reducing, reusing and recycling products. As to biological diversity/sustainable development, soroptimists planted thousands of trees; discouraged indiscriminate harvesting of species with commercial value; protected habitats; and encouraged the awareness of the link between economic development and environmental strategies, with particular emphasis on the need for action.

Health

SI helped to reduce child-blindness in Bangladesh, making a very substantial contribution over four years to a joint project with Sight Savers. Seven under-fives clinics were set up, which will provide services for children and information for their mothers. The promotion of wellness and prevention of illness has been carried out through studies and projects in the areas of nutrition; hygiene; cancer screening; immunization; the prevention of cardiovascular diseases; drug and substance abuse; support for the Safe Motherhood initiative; traditional practices; genetic (hereditary) diseases; and the prevention of accidents. Positive support systems were encouraged, particularly for the elderly and those with chronic diseases such as dementia and cancer, with support also being given to the care providers of such sufferers. The problem of HIV/AIDS has also been addressed by advocating education, information, the encouragement of research, support for the human rights of patients and families affected, and the participation of women in prevention and control.

Human rights/status of women

Soroptimists have provided support for the victims of violence; provided education for women and children who are victims or likely victims of violence and abuse; and given counselling to family groups. Work has continued in support of the rights of the child, with action to eliminate all forms of child exploitation, including child pornography. SI has worked towards the advancement of women by ensuring equality in economic, social and political participation. SI has also focused on the care and rights of the aged, including the recognition and encouragement of their contribution to society.

International goodwill and understanding

SI has provided assistance to refugees, migrants and displaced persons, in particular women and children, by providing aid and support, particularly to the affected areas of eastern Europe.

United Nations officials have spoken at international and federation conferences, which have also included United Nations agenda items. SI publishes a quarterly magazine, The International Soroptimist, in English, French and Japanese, and each of the four federations within SI also publishes magazines, giving extensive coverage to the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, including reports of meetings, resolutions, and important directives that coincide with the aims and work of Soroptimist International.

12. UNION OF INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

(Category II)

Aims/purpose

The aims of the Union of International Associations (UIA) are to facilitate the evolution of the world-wide network of non-profit organizations, especially non-governmental or voluntary organizations, and to promote understanding of how international bodies, whether governmental or non-governmental, represent valid interests in every field of human activity or belief.

In addition, UIA seeks to enable those initiatives to develop and counterbalance each other creatively in response to world problems by collecting information on those bodies and their relationships; to experiment with more meaningful and action-oriented ways of presenting such information as a catalyst for the emergence of more appropriate organizations; and to promote research on the legal, administrative and other problems common to those international associations, especially in their contacts with intergovernmental bodies.

UIA membership currently comprises 136 individuals (professors of international relations, diplomats, association executives etc.) from 37 countries. There have been no substantial changes in UIA funding sources.

Participation at meetings of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies or other United Nations meetings: United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

UIA prepared a background document entitled "Configuring globally and contending locally: shaping the network of local bargains and mapping Earth Summit intersectoral issues" for the intersectoral dialogue organized in June 1992 by the International Facilitating Committee for the Independent Sectors in the preparatory process for the Conference.

Cooperation with other United Nations programmes, bodies and specialized agencies

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UIA has continued to prepare the following information in the form of publications and computer disks for UNESCO under contract: general information on international non-governmental organizations for which subventions are proposed for 1992-1993 (1991); international UNESCO-related non-governmental organizations active in Africa or Latin America (1991); names and addresses of African regional/national members of UNESCO A, B and C bodies, by parent body (1992); statistical survey of meetings and membership of international organizations, by continent, with particular reference to Africa and to those non-governmental organizations in consultative status with UNESCO (1992, also issued in French).

UIA presented a paper entitled "Metaphors as transdisciplinary vehicles of the future" at the Conference on Science and Tradition: Transdisciplinary Perspectives on the way to the 21st Century, which was co-sponsored by UNESCO (Paris, December 1991).

In January 1992, UIA prepared a report entitled "Visualizing relationship networks: international, interdisciplinary, intersectoral", as a follow-up to a grant in 1988 from UNESCO for the preparation of an atlas of international network relationships, in which it is hoped to articulate graphically the network of relationships between and among world problems and the organizations concerned with them.

Other relevant activities

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

Pursuant to Council resolution 334 B (XI), UIA continues to publish its Yearbook of International Organizations, currently in its 31st edition. The publication consists of three volumes: volume 1 contains descriptions of and a multilingual index to over 29,978 international organizations (governmental and non-governmental) and the 85,130 relationships among them; volume 2 covers the participation of countries in international organizations, including over 190,000 membership links to individual countries; and volume 3 contains a classified subject guide to international organizations that includes over 2,000 categories. A CD-ROM version of the publication is being prepared.

Consultations and cooperation with Secretariat officials

UIA has responded to occasional queries by officials of the United Nations Secretariat.

Preparation of requested papers

UIA prepared a study under contract to the Development Administration Division of the former Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the United Nations Secretariat, entitled "Guiding metaphors and configuring choices" (September 1991, contract DTCD 91-11).

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

Registration of future international meetings

UIA continues its registration of future international meetings (currently up to the year 2020), notably those planned by bodies within the United Nations system and by non-governmental organizations in consultation with the Economic and Social Council and specialized agencies. Some 3,000 such meetings are published quarterly in the International Congress Calendar (34th year).

World problems

UIA has continued its programme, initiated in 1972, to collect information from international organizations, notably the United Nations and specialized agencies, on the world problems with which they purport to be concerned. That information, held in a database, was used to produce a third revised edition of the Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential in 1991. Work was completed in 1993 on a fourth edition, to be published in June 1994. The database currently contains information on some 12,000 perceived world problems, linked by some 120,000 relationships. The problems described cover every field of human activity and include many that are only briefly mentioned in official reports, although they are highlighted in other special studies.

Human potential: transformation of values

The 1994 edition of the above-mentioned Encyclopedia includes six additional sections on human potential: human values (3254); human development concepts (1407) and modes of awareness (3049); integrative concepts; metaphors and patterns for social change; and transformative approaches. Since the previous quadrennium, extensive work has been done on human development and the use of metaphor as an unexplored communication resource of value in articulating more appropriate and sustainable approaches to the global problématique.

International organization strategies

Using material collected from international organizations and published during the previous quadrennium, work was initiated in 1993 on an additional volume to the above-mentioned Encyclopedia. The new volume will focus on the many strategies employed by international organizations in response to world problems and will thus link the Encyclopedia more closely to the organizations profiled in the above-mentioned Yearbook of International Organizations.

Visualization of organization and problem networks

UIA successfully experimented in 1993 with the visualization of complex networks of organizations and problems using powerful computer tools. Initial results appear in the 1994 editions of the Yearbook and Encyclopedia and offer a unique perspective on the activities of the international community, notably the many units within the United Nations system.

13. WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

(Category I)

1. The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), founded in 1945, is an international trade union organization based in Prague. WFTU has regional offices in North and South America, Africa and Asia, and works together with 11 international trade unions covering various industries and services. At the end of 1993, the membership of WFTU and its industrial structures, through affiliated organizations in 118 countries, exceeded 110 million.

2. WFTU has permanent representatives accredited to the United Nations in New York and Geneva, and to FAO in Rome. During the period under review, WFTU has participated in all major initiatives of the Economic and Social Council as well as other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the ILO. WFTU and its affiliated national centres actively support, inter alia, the World Disarmament Campaign, which propagates the concept of "disarmament for development"; the Education for All campaign; the eradication of illiteracy; agrarian reform and rural development; and eliminating the foreign debt burden of developing countries.

3. WFTU has participated in the annual sessions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as in meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, and has presented statements on the solemn days in solidarity with the people of South Africa in their struggle against apartheid. In that regard, a WFTU representative served as Secretary of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on Southern Africa. WFTU participated regularly in the annual briefings held by the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat and most of the weekly briefings for non-governmental organizations. It has also been actively engaged in the various initiatives of CONGO.

4. WFTU participated actively in the preparations for both UNCED and the World Conference on Human Rights. Along with its affiliates, WFTU campaigned for the effective implementation of the decisions of those important conferences. It has systematically worked for the strict implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and has submitted a number of cases for the consideration of the Human Rights Committee as well as the ILO Committee on Freedom of Association.

5. Through its regional offices and national affiliates, WFTU has participated in meetings of the regional commissions.

6. On regional as well as on broad international issues, WFTU actively cooperates with the Organization of African Trade Union Unity, the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions and the All-China Federation of Trade Unions in actively promoting international trade union cooperation as well as peace and friendship among nations. Those organizations are members of an international trade union committee that supports the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

7. WFTU actively participates in the periodical consultations held between UNCTAD along with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and the international and regional trade union organizations. WFTU and its affiliates actively propagate the United Nations call for people's participation in development and for a new international economic order.

8. In a new policy document, the WFTU General Council, at its forty-fifth session (Warsaw, October 1993), deemed it important and necessary for WFTU international trade unions and regional offices to develop more actively, in cooperation with the organizations concerned, their relations and participation in the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, especially the ILO and regional commissions. The General Council supported the initiative taken jointly by the Workers Group at the ILO to express full support to the International Labour Organization on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary and in its work to uphold the international labour standards enshrined in ILO conventions.

9. WFTU work at the level of the United Nations system is also highlighted in its information activities and propagated through its official bulletin, which is published in three languages, as well as through the information media of affiliated organizations at the national level. WFTU and its affiliates regularly make use of the reports and publications of the United Nations system in their internal documents as well as for information activities. WFTU has also regularly submitted memoranda to the General Assembly and other United Nations bodies on issues falling within its competence as an international trade union organization.

14. WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

(Category II)

The World Resources Institute (WRI) helps Governments, the private sector, environmental and development organizations, and others move human society to live in ways that protect the Earth's environment and its capacity to provide for the needs and aspirations of current and future generations.

In 1993, WRI income sources were the Government of the United States of America (28 per cent), other Governments (5 per cent), foundations (24 per cent), corporations (3 per cent), international institutions such as the United Nations and other cooperating organizations (11 per cent), investment income (24 per cent), publication sales (3 per cent) and individuals (2 per cent).

WRI is a member of the World Conservation Union (IUCN), an international non-governmental organization in consultative status.

United Nations-related activities, 1990-1993

1990. In cooperation with UNDP and UNEP, WRI prepared and published World Resources 1990-91, a biennial global assessment of natural resources and the environment and their relationship to economic development; that edition included a special section on global warming and a regional focus on Latin America. Various editions of World Resources are published in English, Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, German and Japanese.

1990. A WRI Vice-President advised the UNDP Bureau for Programme Policy and Evaluation on methods and practices for integrating environmental concerns into the development process, establishing the Sustainable Development Network and mobilizing new financial resources for the environmental aspects of development.

1990-1992. The WRI Biological Resources and Institutions Program Director worked with UNEP and IUCN to begin development of the "Global Biodiversity Strategy", a joint UNEP/IUCN/WRI document, which was released in February 1992.

1991. WRI provided a draft chapter entitled "International institutions and actions" for the UNEP publication State of the Environment, 1972-1992. In addition, the WRI Resources and Environmental Information Program provided chapters on natural resources for the 1991-1992 and 1993-1994 editions of the UNEP publication Environmental Data Report.

1991-1992. In cooperation with UNDP and UNEP, WRI prepared and published World Resources 1992-93, a biennial global assessment of natural resources and the environment and their relationship to economic development; that edition included a special section on sustainable development and a regional focus on central Europe. World Resources is published in English, Spanish, French, Japanese, Chinese, Dutch, and German.

1990-1992. In preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, WRI personnel contributed as follows:

(a) A WRI senior fellow was senior adviser to the UNCED secretariat from September 1989 to June 1992;

(b) The President of WRI and a WRI Vice-President served as special advisers to the UNCED secretariat;

(c) WRI staff participated in UNCED Preparatory Committee meetings and in meetings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change. Those meetings were informed by the WRI publication Greenhouse Warming: Negotiating a Global Regime (January 1991). WRI organized and co-sponsored with the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States Government and the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), a conference on the theme "Economics of sustainable development" (February 1990);

(d) WRI staff participated in the Action for a Common Future Conference;

(e) WRI published Lessons Learned in Global Environmental Governance, in which ECE examined the successes and failures of past international environmental agreements to formulate recommendations for institutional reform;

(f) The WRI Biological Resources and Institutes Program Director participated in the meetings of the International Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Biodiversity and served on the UNCED secretariat Working Party on Biodiversity, preparing papers on integrating biodiversity with development policies; financial resources for biodiversity conservation; and policy reforms needed to conserve biodiversity;

(g) A WRI Senior Vice-President served on the UNCED Working Party on Land Management;

(h) The WRI Center for International Development and Environment Director served on the UNCED secretariat Working Party on Forests;

(i) A senior WRI associate served on the UNCED secretariat Working Party on Oceans and WRI issued the publication "Forging international agreement: strengthening international institutions for environment and development".

1992. WRI provided the methodology for developing natural resources indicators of sustainable agriculture for the K2 policy model for food and agricultural policy analysis of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

1992-1993. The WRI Program in Biological Resources and Institutions moved the UNCED biodiversity treaty process forward by preparing case study-based country guidelines to help Parties to the Convention to prepare the national strategies and action plans required by the treaty. That work continues and will be published in December 1994.

1992. With the support of UNEP, WRI analysed case studies in Chile, India and the Philippines to assess the effect of agricultural policies on the sustainability of methods of cultivating major crops.

1992. WRI hosted an international workshop on environmental indicators that included participation by representatives of UNEP, UNDP, FAO, the Earth Council and the United Nations University (December 1992).

1993. WRI provided a methodology for developing socio-economic indicators of sustainable agriculture for the FAO K2 policy model for food and agricultural policy analysis.

1993. A WRI Vice-President and Senior Economist worked in collaboration with UNEP to begin developing policy options for revising international trade structure so as to avoid trade conflicts over environmental issues and to integrate trade and environmental objectives. WRI published preliminary findings from that analysis as the Issues and Ideas Paper "Trade and the environment: achieving complementarities and avoiding conflicts".

1993. With support from UNESCO and UNEP, WRI began an adaptation of the Teacher's Guide to World Resources to produce editions for India, Latin America and Africa.

1993. The WRI Biological Resources and Institutes Program Director became a lead author for a chapter of the UNEP-sponsored Global Biodiversity Assessment, which will provide scientific input to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

1993. A WRI Technology and Environment Program Associate participated in an UNCTAD workshop on the transfer and development of environmentally sound technologies.